



Space Coast Regional Chapter of the Florida Master Naturalist Program  
Officers' Meeting

January 4, 2017 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Riverwalk Nature Center, 5355 US Hwy 1, Rockledge, FL 32955

Officers Present:

Bert Alm- President

CJ Jones - President-Elect for 2017

Kerri Lubeski - Secretary

Greg Hendricks - Past President

Facilitators Present:

Holly Abeels - Florida Sea Grant Extension Agent

Brandon Smith - Environmental Program Supervisor

4:30 p.m. Call to Order from Bert

Old Business

Minutes of Last Meeting:

Bert motioned to approve December meeting minutes. Minutes approved.

Financial Report:

Account balance as of December 31, 2016

Savings Account \$60.05

Checking Account \$991.60

Total \$1,051.65

Membership:

61 members as of December 31, 2016.

### Status of Standard Operating Procedure Updates and Outreach Box

Officers have yet to submit their one pager of responsibilities to Holly. Greg recommended re-reading the Bylaws to assist us in writing the SOP for each officer.

Holly has cleaned out the Outreach Box. She will also update the exhibit board as needed before the next event.

Karen is still shopping for a canopy and table for events. The goal is to have the items by Pioneer Day at Sam's House at Pine Island on, February 11, 2017.

### Agenda Items for Winter Quarterly Membership Meeting

Meeting will take place at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1339 20th St. Vero Beach, FL 32960 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 9, 2017.

Brandon and Holly mentioned the IRL Symposium will be also be taking place on that day. That may limit our availability to speakers on the IRL.

Suggested speakers were:

Rachel Wentz, a FMNP Graduate and former Archeologist with the Windover Dig

Kendra Cope may be able to assist us in finding someone in the Parks and Recreation Department for Indian River County to speak. Brandon will contact Kendra.

Suggested topics were:

Indian River Lagoon

Water Management

Park System in Indian River County

### Outreach Events

#### Previous Events Since December BOD Meeting:

Ocean, Reef, & Beach Festival, Pelican Beach Park, Satellite Beach, FL December 5, 2016

Outreach exhibit was very successful, approximately 150 members of the general public were presented FMNP & Chapter goals and objectives. It is believed that several new FMNP students were encouraged by this event.

Scrub to Swamp Hike, Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, Titusville, FL December 10, 2016

The hike was led by Greg Hendricks, Advanced Florida Master Naturalist. This was considered a chapter activity in association with EFS Saturday morning guided hikes. The hike was considered a success.

#### Upcoming and Potential Events:

Bert was asked by Brevard Zoo to speak to the Zoo volunteers about FMNP. Holly will find the Outreach PowerPoint file that was created for these types of requests and send it to Bert. Bert will also like to bring the pop up banner and table with information.

Pioneer Day - Sams House at Pine Island, February 11, 2017 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Kerri Lubeski will be point of contact.

Pelican Island Wildlife Festival - Riverview Park, Sebastian, FL March 18 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Karen Rann will be point of contact.

“Lagoonacy” at Marine Discovery Center, New Smyrna Beach, FL April 1 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Bert will reach out to Charity Jackson to see if she is interested in being the point of contact.

Earth Day at NASA (Employees), Kennedy Space Center, FL April 21, 2017  
Kerri Lubeski will be point of contact with Holly’s assistance.

Earth Day at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, Titusville, FL April  
Greg Hendricks will be point of contact.

EcoFest at the Environmental Learning Center, Vero Beach, FL March 5, 2017 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Cris Wagner will assist with finding out more information

FMSEA Annual Conference, May 6, 2017 in the December Minutes it was suggested Karen Tobi or Michelle West might be interested in coordinating. Brandon will also share information as he comes across it.

The Board decided that Viera Wetlands Festival is not of interest to participate in for 2017.

Kerri mentioned reaching out to members in Volusia County to find out what activities and events we can be present at for the members in that county. Bert said he would contact Charity Jackson to see if she had any ideas.

#### Scheduled Chapter Activities - Upcoming and Potential Activites

Crystal River Springs - Brandon reported that if we wanted to rent 2 boats that held 15 passengers it would cost \$1,023. If we wanted to rent one boat it would cost \$672.00  
The Board decided to table the idea until a later date. Jan and February were booked, so we have decided to table that activity for another time.

Blue Springs State Park was mentioned as an alternate place to Crystal River to visit the manatees. There is an entrance fee, but with completing a waiver the fee can be waived for groups.

#### Fakahatchee Strand & Corkscrew Swamp

Greg discussed offering it the first week in February. We can put a Doodle out to see if anyone has any other suggested dates that work well. This would be an overnight trip. More information will be discussed at the next meeting.

#### Peace River Kayak/Camp Trip

Greg is suggesting we host this in March. More will be discussed at the next meeting.

#### Indigo Conservation and Central Florida Zoo

Bert is going to gather more information. This trip may take place in April.

Sea Camp 2017, Pigeon Key, and White Oak Plantation Yulee are all high dollar events. It was discussed we may want to have just one high dollar event each year.

Bert is going to update the spreadsheets with the latest information for the events and activities.

We will also solicit ideas of activities and events at the Winter Membership Meeting.

#### Nature Explore Classroom at Riverwalk

Cathy Allen is working with Brandon Smith to secure grants for Phase 2 of the Nature Explore Classroom at Riverwalk. Riverwalk is not a 501(c)(3) and some of the grant money that is available has to be awarded to a non-profit. Cathy would like the Board to consider the Chapter being the Applicant on the grant to receive the funds for the project. They are seeking approximately \$30,000. Since our Treasurer, Karen Rann was not at the meeting Bert took Cathy's information to share with Karen. There are many unanswered questions at this time. There was discussion of an overhead charge, something like 5%. The Board will continue this discussion at the next meeting after Karen and Cathy have a chance to talk. If we decided to assist with this, we would have recognition on the sponsor board. Cathy also mentioned if we had a wishlist of items we could use grant money for, she would be willing to assist us in finding grant money for them.

#### Other Topics

Holly would like our assistance in reviewing the website to find any changes that may need to be made for 2017.

Scholarship deadlines need to be updated so applicants know what the cut off date to apply is. Holly will draft something and share it with us.

The Board is also interested in going to the FMNP classes to recruit new members. We will look at the classes offered in the area and discuss at a later date.

Kerri mentioned some free social meet ups for the Chapter. Greg mentioned they could be combined with some of the outreach events. We want to provide a free, fun social opportunity

for members to get to know each other and build friendships. That was one of the reasons behind starting a local chapter. We will continue to brainstorm meetups during future meetings.

Next BOD Meeting, Wednesday, February 1, 4:30 p.m. Riverwalk Nature Center, 5355 US HWY 1, Rockledge, FL 32955.

Meeting adjourned 5:55 p.m.